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GENERAL MANAGER/CHIEF ENGINEER
Richard W. Hansen

June 29, 1998

Mr. Rick Breitenbach
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments on Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR

Dear Sir:

Three Valleys Municipal Water District is pleased to submit these comments on the Draft PEIS/EIR, a monumental and vitally important undertaking. As a general comment, this district is supportive of the process and the product released so far. We do view CALFED as an historic opportunity to correct some of the oversights of the past, and hope for a positive outcome for all stakeholders, and for the future of California.

Clearly, much detail remains for evaluation on a case by case basis as CALFED agencies move to implement the programmatic plan. A comprehensive process such as this leaves tremendous room for uneasiness, not having any guarantees that one's needs can or will be met when the projects come to fruition. From the viewpoint of an urban agency that relies on Delta exports for the drinking water needs of one-half million people, there is real concern that user fees could become the "deep pocket" to pay for ecosystem restoration, without corresponding benefits to water supply reliability and water quality improvement. This comment is meant simply to reinforce the need for assurances that can establish a level of confidence that all stakeholders "get better together" and do not suffer redirected impacts down the line.

We look forward to continued engagement in the process, and will try to play a constructive role for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Hansen
General Manager

RWH/TCW/tcw

cc: Legislative Delegation

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